

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 423 without my signature.

While I share the author's interest in improving access to mental health and substance abuse services, I cannot support this bill as it would contribute to higher health care costs, potentially making coverage less affordable. California needs comprehensive health care reform that will provide coverage for all, promote shared responsibility and make health care more affordable.

I encourage the author to work with me to enact comprehensive health care reform that will provide all Californians access to health coverage, strengthen prevention efforts, increase access to mental health and substance abuse services, and promote affordability.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger